

Today, Florence's Exquisite Chocolates remains a family-owned staple in Rexburg. Florence's son Brian and his wife Michelle keep the tradition of quality-crafted sweets thriving by making their products available in other stores and maintaining an online presence to connect with their loyal customers nationwide. They look forward to continuing to serve their community.

Congratulations to the Manwaring family and all of the employees of Florence's Exquisite Chocolates on being the Idaho Small Business of the Month for November 2021. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

#### REMEMBERING DEXTER RANDALL

● Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I rise today to honor the memory of Dexter Randall of Newport Center, VT. In Dexter's passing, Vermont and the Nation have lost a great champion for farmers.

Dexter was born in Lyndon, VT, in 1945 but spent most of his life with his family on their farm in Troy, VT. On September 3, 1971, he married Alice Gilman, who we sadly lost a year ago, on June 2, 2020. Along with their five children—Lisa, Justin, Jordan, Irene, and Jason—Randall and Alice ran their small organic dairy farm for 37 years before Justin and Irene took over operations.

While Dexter was first and foremost a farmer, he was also a public servant. In the Northeast Kingdom, an area of the State often known for more conservative points of view, Dexter charted a unique political path, serving as a Progressive State representative with a strong independent streak. Dexter felt that his political philosophy was not all that different from that of his father, who had been a Republican, but that the Vermont Republican Party of earlier generations had undergone significant change. During his time in and out of the Vermont Statehouse, he was an unwavering voice for farmers and small family farms, fighting for fair milk prices and to safeguard Vermont's agricultural heritage.

Both in elected office and during his 30 years on the board of Rural Vermont, Dexter showed a fearlessness in advocating for bold policy change. He understood that in order to save family farms and ensure the future of agriculture in Vermont, we needed to fundamentally rethink agricultural policy and fight against corporation consolidation. He was at the center of some of the biggest agricultural debates of his time, including the creation of the New England Dairy Compact and fighting to protect farmers from the corporate greed of companies producing genetically modified organism—GMO—seeds. Dexter's work was not limited to Vermont. In 2006, he traveled to Mali to learn how U.S. policies impact Africa's agricultural sec-

tor. On this and many other topics, Dexter demonstrated an ability to translate complex policy issues into plain language, making it easy for his constituents to understand and relate to.

Caring for the land was at the heart of Dexter's work. Despite farming being more than a full-time job, he was active with the Missisquoi Basin Association, the American Devon Cattle Association, the Orleans County Natural Resources Conservation District, and the Vermont Center for Sustainable Agriculture. At a time when agriculture and environmental protection were often pitted against one another, Dexter showed that farmers can and often are strong conservationists and excellent stewards of the land.

When I first met Dexter 35 years ago, his reputation as a fearless champion for rural Vermonters and farmers preceded him. Some probably would have considered us to be unlikely friends; he was a dairy farmer in a remote part of the State, and I was the first Independent mayor of the State's biggest city of Burlington. Those people, of course, were wrong. It was 1986, milk prices were low, and both Dexter and I understood that farmers were suffering. To raise spirits and money, Rural Vermont held a fundraiser near Dexter and Alice's farm. For my part, I drove the 2 hours to the Northeast Kingdom because not only did I understand the importance of the issue, I was impressed by the grassroots advocacy of Dexter, Alice, and the organizers. From that day on, Dexter and I enjoyed a long friendship that included a pig roast on his farm each year. At the heart, these events were very much about good food, comradery, bringing people together, and appreciating the pastoral landscape of Vermont. These events were also where good, old-fashioned democracy took place. People could talk about the issues that were important to them and feel like politicians were actually listening. I learned a great deal at these events about the struggles of working people, especially in rural Vermont, and for that, I am eternally grateful to Dexter.

I was sad not to be able to join Dexter on the farm this year, and I will miss traveling there and seeing Dexter each year, but I am thankful for our many years of friendship. To my mind, Dexter represented the best of Vermont; he was not only deeply engaged in the issues, but he also genuinely cared about the wellbeing of his friends, family, neighbors, fellow farmers, and his rural constituents. He believed everyone deserves a fair shot, and he tirelessly advocated for Vermonters at every opportunity he could, whether by supporting universal healthcare or milk prices that enabled farmers to keep the lights on and live in dignity.

Ultimately, Dexter brought his ethos about farming—that “if you take care of the land it will take care of you, so you can leave it a little bit better than

you found it”—to his community and his State. Vermont is indeed a better place, and Vermonters are better off, thanks to Dexter Randall.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Swann, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13067 OF NOVEMBER 3, 1997, WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN, RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON OCTOBER 29, 2021—PM 15

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Sudan declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, is to continue in effect beyond November 3, 2021.

Sudan made strides in its transition toward democracy since 2019, but the military takeover of the government and arrest of civilian leaders now threaten those positive gains. The crisis that led to the declaration of a national emergency in Executive Order 13067; the expansion of that emergency in Executive Order 13400 of April 26, 2006; and the taking of additional steps with respect to that emergency in Executive Order 13412 of October 13, 2006, Executive Order 13761 of January 13, 2017, and Executive Order 13804 of July 11, 2017, has not been resolved. The situation in Darfur continues to pose an